

## Kenneth G. DeNeal, Sr., R. Ph. 8116 Parkwood Drive Saint Louis, Missouri 63123-4831



22 May/99

Jane Henney, Commissioner Food and Drug Administration 5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, Maryland 20857

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Dear Ms. Henney:

In the mid-1980's Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Mad Cow Disease, appeared in Britain. Two years later, this disease was linked to feeding livestock rendered animal by-products. Not for almost a decade did the U.S. recognize the dangers of this practice. Transmissable Spongiform Encephalopathies, human diseases caused by the same agents as BSE, are now fatal realities. In man the disease emerges as holes and amyloid plaque material spreading into the brain causing dementia, physical failure and death. Trasmission is through exposure to contaminated human growth hormone, corneal transplants, the use of dura mater in transplants, the use of infected probes and possibly through blood. A major route of transmission occurs through the ingestion of the infectious agent, for example eating meat. Scary?You betcha!

Unfortunately, the FDA appears to be ignoring the sound and persistent warnings of scientists that feeding dead animals to farm animals is dangerous, irrational and inane. Although much of the civilized world has banned such practices, in our country it is not only done but encouraged by the unscrupulous advertising of many producers of cattle feed.

Your office must take immediate steps to end this horrible threat to all animals, human and non-human. They must include the prohibition of blood and blood products in animal feed, the exclusion of gelatin and its by-products, the forbidance of porcine material and the absolute outlawing of TSE-positive material in feed or in the manufacture of cosmetics. After all, the best medicine in the world is spelled p-r-e-v-e-n-t-i-o-n.

Respectfully,

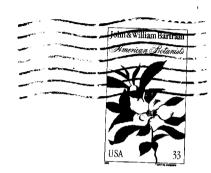
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